

Michael F. Easley
Governor



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EASLEY NAMES TIPPETT/CONTI TEAM TO HEAD D.O.T.

(Raleigh, NC) Governor Mike Easley today named Lyndo Tippet as Secretary of the Department of Transportation. Eugene A. Conti, Jr. will serve as the Department's Chief Deputy.

"I am excited about this pairing for D.O.T.," Easley said. "Tippet's accounting and board experience will fit well with Mr. Conti's broad transportation policy expertise and budget background."

"We have been looking for someone to head D.O.T. who knows transportation, knows the Department and its budget and who has high ethical standards," said Easley. "Mr. Tippet is, without question, the best candidate for the job."

"Mr. Conti is a transportation professional with a national reputation. He has broad experience with creative solutions to the transportation challenges facing our State. Working with Tippet, Conti will help us aggressively address transportation in North Carolina from a statewide systematic approach which is essential for the wise use of our limited resources."

"Both Tippet and Conti know transportation and budget. In the current fiscal environment, it is critical that the Secretary and Deputy understand finance and propose new and better ways to fund transportation," said Easley. "Conti, as Assistant Secretary for U.S. Transportation, dealt with troubled urban transportation plans nationwide. He can ensure that we do not get caught behind the curve in our urban centers."

Tippet, age 61, is a native of Emit, North Carolina (Johnston County near Fayetteville). He is a 1957 graduate of Corinth-Holders High School and earned his B.S. from Barton College. Tippet served on active duty for six months in the U.S. Army and earned the rank of Sergeant E-5 in the Army Reserves.

Tippet is a Certified Public Accountant and partner with the firm of Tippet, Padrick and Bryan in Fayetteville, North Carolina where he has worked since 1976. Prior to that, he was the Vice President and CEO of Bybon, Inc. and a staff accountant with Ernst & Young. He is currently a Trustee with Methodist College and serves on the boards of the UNC-Pembroke Foundation, the Fayetteville State University Foundation, the Airborne and Special Operation Museum, the Museum of the Cape Fear, the Fayetteville Airport Commission, the Fayetteville Area Metropolitan Transportation Advisory Committee, the Cumberland County Community Health Care Council, First Citizens Bank, Dawson Builders, Inc and Remit Corporation. Tippet has served as a State Board of Transportation member for the past eight years.

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